

For the Missouri State Highway Patrol Headquarters
nearest you, consult your local telephone directory.

Sex Offender Registry

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(1-888-767-6747)

METH Hotline

1-888-823-METH (6384)

Road Conditions

1-800-222-6400 or 573-526-6400

Emergency Assistance

1-800-525-5555 or cellular *55

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MISSOURI CONCEALED WEAPONS LAW



Missouri's concealed weapons law became effective February 26, 2004. The law contains requirements for applicant training and background checks; procedures for sheriffs and the Missouri Department of Revenue to follow in issuing certificates of qualification and endorsements; an explanation of the Missouri State Highway Patrol's duties regarding concealed weapons endorsements; and restrictions on where concealed weapons may be carried. The new law also contains a provision for persons to carry a concealed firearm in a vehicle without a permit.

OBTAINING AND MAINTAINING A CONCEALED WEAPON ENDORSEMENT

A Missouri resident must be at least 23 years old to apply. If you wish to obtain a concealed weapon endorsement, you must first complete a firearms safety course at least eight hours in length.

Once the firearms safety course is completed, the next step is to apply for the certificate of qualification at your local sheriff's office. You must present a copy of the firearms training course certificate, complete an application, and pay a non-refundable fee of \$100. You may apply only in the county in which you reside. The application to the local sheriff (or police chief, if applicable, in first class counties) will contain a sworn statement. This statement verifies the applicant:

- is at least 23 years of age.
- is a citizen of the United States.
- has assumed residency in Missouri, or is an armed forces member or spouse stationed in Missouri.
- has not been convicted, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to any felony.
- has no weapons-related misdemeanor conviction.
- has not been convicted within the past five years of a violent misdemeanor.
- has not been convicted of two or more misdemeanors involving DWI or possession or abuse of a controlled substance within the past five years.
- is not a fugitive.
- is not currently charged with a felony.

Q. What if I fail to renew my endorsement? Is there a grace period?

A: Yes. There is a grace period of six months; but, there is also a \$10 per month late fee assessed by the sheriff. The sheriff is required to keep records and report all instances of non-renewal to DOR at the end of the six-month grace period. DOR will then immediately cancel the endorsement.

Q. What if I misplace my driver's license?

A: You must notify the sheriff within seven days of losing your driver's license. The sheriff will issue a duplicate certificate of application. You must then present this duplicate to DOR to obtain a duplicate driver's license with a concealed weapons endorsement.

Q. Can I obtain a separate ID card, so my driver's license won't show the concealed weapons endorsement?

A: Yes, you can. But, be aware that any law enforcement officer who checks your license through DOR will be notified you are authorized to carry a concealed weapon.

Q. What happens if a disqualifying fact is discovered after the endorsement is issued?

A: There are provisions for both the sheriff and the director of revenue to revoke a person's endorsement. The courts will be responsible for reporting disqualifying judgments to DOR.

Q. Is the list of carrying concealed endorsement holders a public record?

A: No, it is private information. This information can be further restricted in the same manner as other driver information if the holder chooses to restrict it. However, as with other restricted listings, law enforcement will have access to that information.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. How does the new law affect the old peaceable journey exception?

A. It does not. You may still carry a concealed weapon on a continuous peaceable journey through the state. This includes Missourians whose trip begins and/or ends in Missouri.

Q. What if I'm stopped by law enforcement? Any suggestions?

A. Where possible, it's best to stay seated in your vehicle, with both hands on the steering wheel. Do not reach to an area where your firearm is concealed without first advising the officer that you possess a firearm in your vehicle or on your person.

Q. Does a person carrying a weapon in a vehicle also have to have a permit for the gun?

A. No. A weapon may be carried anywhere in a vehicle, even concealed on the person, under the vehicle exception.

Q. Does a concealed carry endorsement allow a holder to carry a concealed pistol on a public bus?

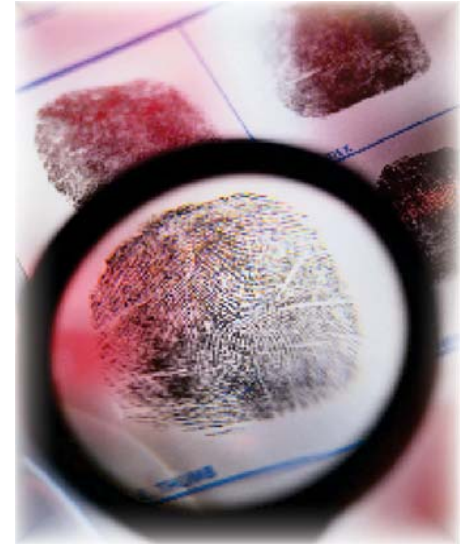
A. No. Only law enforcement, commercial security personnel, and persons with consent of the owner are exempt from this provision. (See Section 578.305, RSMo.)

Q. What if I fail to update my driver's license when I move or change my name?

A. A concealed carry endorsement shall automatically become invalid if the holder has not notified the sheriff and DOR of the changes within 30 days of the change.

- has not been dishonorably discharged from the armed forces.
- has not been adjudged mentally incompetent within the past five years.
- has received the required firearms safety training.
- is not the respondent of a valid full order of protection.

Upon receipt of an application, the sheriff will fingerprint you. Within three days, the sheriff is required to request a criminal record check from the Missouri State Highway Patrol. If no disqualifying record is identified at the state level, the Highway Patrol then will forward your fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The sheriff has a total of 45 days to issue or reject an application, regardless of whether all background checks have been completed. If an application is rejected, you may file an appeal in small claims court. The sheriff must report the issuance of a certificate of qualification to the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System.



Effective July 2004, the Missouri Department of Revenue (DOR) began issuing driver's licenses and non-driver ID cards with concealed weapon endorsements. Once you receive a certificate of qualification, you must present yourself to the driver's license bureau (within DOR) within seven days for a duplicate driver's license/non-driver's ID card showing the endorsement for carrying a concealed weapon. Once you have this endorsement, you must notify DOR of any change in your name or permanent address. You are required to notify DOR and the sheriff of both the old and new jurisdictions within 30 days of the change. DOR must then notify MULES within three days.

DOR will also process renewal certificates of qualification, which are required every three years. However, most Missouri driver's licenses are valid for six years. If you wish to renew your endorsement, you must re-apply with your county sheriff, pay a nonrefundable \$50 fee, then take the certificate to DOR for renewal of the endorsement. No additional firearms safety training or fingerprinting is required for renewal.

CONCEALED WEAPONS MAY NOT BE CARRIED:

In accordance with Section 571.107 RSMo., you may not carry a concealed weapon in the following places:

- any police, sheriff, or Highway Patrol office or station without consent;
- within 25 feet of any polling place on Election Day;
- adult or juvenile jail or institution;
- courthouse or facilities;
- any meeting of a government body (except by a member with a concealed carry endorsement);
- bar without consent;
- airport;
- where prohibited by federal law;
- schools;
- child care facility (without consent of manager);
- riverboat gambling facility;
- amusement parks;
- any church or place of worship; without permission of Minister or person representing religious organization
- any sports arena or stadium (with seating for more than 5,000);
- hospitals; and,
- private or public property where posted.



Possession of a firearm in a vehicle on the premises of any of the above-listed locations is not prohibited so long as the firearm is not removed from the vehicle or brandished while the vehicle is on the premises. Carrying a concealed firearm in any location specified above is not a criminal act. However, you can be denied access to the premises or may be removed from the premises for doing so. If a peace officer is summoned:

- Upon the first offense, you can be cited and fined up to \$100.
- If within six months, a second offense occurs, you can be fined up to \$200, and your concealed firearms endorsement can be suspended for a period of one year.
- If within one year of the first offense a third citation for a similar violation is issued, you may be fined up to \$500, and your concealed carry endorsement revoked. If your concealed carry endorsement is revoked, you are not eligible for the endorsement for a period of three years.

CARRYING A WEAPON IN A VEHICLE

In addition to the concealed carry endorsement discussed above, Missouri now permits any person who is at least 21 years old to transport a concealable firearm in the passenger compartment of a motor vehicle. No concealed carry endorsement is required. Under the old law, the peaceable journey exception to the unlawful-use-of-a-weapon law permitted travelers on a continuous peaceable journey to carry a concealed weapon. The peaceable journey exception is still in the law, and may apply in circumstances where the new law does not (i.e. if the person is less than 21 years old). Also, any coroner, deputy coroner, medical examiner, or assistant medical examiner may carry a concealable firearm upon or about their person without an endorsement.

Note: *This law does not affect the law prohibiting possession of a concealable firearm by a dangerous felon.*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- If you are arrested for DWI and are carrying a concealed weapon, you also may be arrested for possession of a firearm while intoxicated. "Possession" would include having the weapon in the vehicle, not just on your person.
- Missouri's carrying concealed law recognizes all out-of-state permits, including those from political subdivisions — cities and counties. Also, keep in mind that Missouri's peaceable journey law will apply to travelers, including those who do not have a permit.
- Out-of-state residents cannot obtain a Missouri concealed carry endorsement. However, nothing prohibits Missouri residents from obtaining a concealed carry permit from another state, and those permits would be valid in Missouri.
- Not all states honor Missouri's concealed weapons endorsement. It is the responsibility of the endorsement holder to comply with the laws of all states/jurisdictions in which he carries a concealed weapon.